
2014 UTEP Interdisciplinary Research (IDR) Symposium: Rewarding and Recognizing Interdisciplinary Research

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Patricia D. Hurn, Ph.D.
**Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, The University of
Texas System**
**Research Professor in Neurobiology, College of Natural Sciences,
University of Texas at Austin**

Dr. Hurn is Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation at The University of Texas System, one of the largest university systems in the U.S. that is comprised of 9 universities and 6 academic health centers. In addition to her leadership role, Dr. Hurn is an active neuroscientist and internationally known for her work in understanding the cellular and molecular basis of gender differences in response to experimental brain injury. She is appointed as Research Professor in Neuroscience in the College of Natural Sciences of the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Hurn directs a translational laboratory that studies the role of hormone in post-stroke immunology, funded by the National Institutes of Health.

One aspect of research leadership that is her hallmark is the ability to bring together diverse groups of faculty and leaders from outside the university to accomplish common research goals. As principal investigator, she has led multi-investigator initiatives, including program project grants and an NIH Training Program. Her educational background is unique and emphasizes trans-disciplinary training and a deep understanding of basic science, medicine, and nursing. Dr. Hurn holds a Bachelor and Masters of Science in Nursing, specializing in trauma and critical care. She earned a PhD in Physiology in 1990 from The Johns Hopkins University, followed by postdoctoral training in biomedical engineering. She began her faculty career in the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and attained the rank of full professor at that institution in 2003.

Dr. Hurn's academic career is highlighted by her joint activity in both clinical and basic science departments. Prior to joining the UT System, she served as Professor and Vice-Chair for Research in the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine, as Professor Neurology and of Physiology and Pharmacology and Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs at Oregon Health and Science University. In addition, she created and directed the OHSU Center for Gender Based Medicine, a multi-disciplinary research center for the study of sex-based differences in cardiovascular disease.

Dr. Hurn sits on numerous editorial boards and is a charter member of the NIH Acute Neural Injury and Epilepsy study section. In 2009 and 2010, she chaired the International Symposium Stroke Conference of the American Heart Association. She is also a Fellow of the American Heart Association, the American College of Critical Care Medicine, and the American Physiological Society.